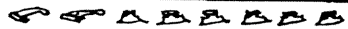
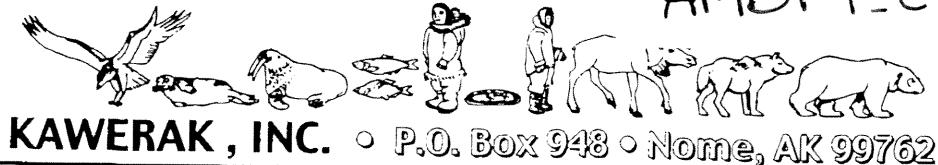


AMD17-078 4/15/08



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April 14, 2008

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
 Division of Program Development
 P.O. Box 112500
 3132 Channel Drive, Suite 200
 Juneau, AK 99811-2500

Dear STIP Administrator(s):

Kawerak's Transportation Program (KTP) has a joint project with the ADOT&PF to design and construct the Gambell Evacuation Road project. KTP is contributing matching funds of \$1 million dollars for the design of the project and DOT&PF is contributing \$4.8 million for construction. This project is due for construction in FFY09. The KTP design is currently at the draft environmental document stage, which has been circulated to agencies for public comment. We anticipate getting approval from FHWA to proceed to final design within a month or two.

The estimated budget to construct this project is currently estimated at approximately \$12 million. This amount is **significantly** higher than the \$4.8 million that is budgeted in the STIP. As you know, the Gambell Evacuation Road project has been on the State STIP for a long time (10 to 15 years) and the cost to construct has increased significantly over the years from the initial estimate of \$4.8 million. Kawerak now finds itself in the difficult position of designing a project that will probably not have enough money for construction. Kawerak will also apply for Denali Commission funding for \$1.0 million, but that still leaves a substantial funding shortfall.

Kawerak recommends that funding be increased for the construction of the Gambell Evacuation Road Project so that this vital project may be constructed as originally envisioned so many years ago.

Please contact Jeanette Pomrenke, Transportation Program Director at (907) 443-4251 or email: jpomenke@kawerak.org for any questions that you may have about this recommendation. Thank you and we look forward to a continued collaborative relationship with the ADOT&PF on this project.

Sincerely,

Loretta Bullard,
 President

Cc: Jeanette Pomrenke, KTP Director
 Denise Michels, CSD-VP

